Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):*

(*a*) A petition, dated 15th Mithunam 1115, from K. N. Padmanabhan, pupil, Form VI B, Ramavarma Union High School, Cherai, to the effect that Mr. C. Kumara Panikkar, Headmaster, Lower Secondary School, Edavanakad, tried to assault him criminally on 13th Mithunam 1115, was received by the Director.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The allegations were (1) that Mr. C. Kumara Panikkar tried to assault the pupil criminally, (2) that the coffee cup and the umbrella which he had taken with him when going to Mr. Panikkar's room on 13th Mithunam 1115 were not returned to him on representation the next day and (3) that the said Mr. Panikkar abused the pupil very much when he was approached to deliver the coffee cup and the umbrella and that he even tried to beat him.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The complaints were not proved on enquiry.

ST. THOMAS' COLLEGE—ADMISSION OF LADY STUDENTS—CONDITIONS FOR

18. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Government has noted in the papers about the mention by the Trichur Municipality in their civic address presented to Rt. Rev. Mgr. John Palocaren, Principal of the St. Thomas' College, Trichur, of the necessity to admit lady students in the St. Thomas' College or to have a Girls' section in that College;

(*b*) whether they have noted in the reply of Rt. Rev. Palocaren to the above mentioned address that he will move the management of the College to open a Girls' section, provided the Government hands over to the St. Thomas' College the present Syrian Girls' School building and premises;

(*c*) whether the Government has any objection to offer the building and premises of the school referred to in (*b*) to the management of the St. Thomas' College on condition that they will open the College for lady students also?

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Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Mgr. Palocaren is reported to have stated that, if Government gave the College the plot of land in front of the College, the College authorities could conveniently open a Girls' section there.

(*c*) Yes; there is objection, because it is required for Government purposes.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: May I know, Sir, whether the Syrian Girls' School is a primary or a lower Secondary school?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* There are two primary girls' schools held there. One is a Vernacular School and the other is an English Primary School.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether Government think there is any necessity of having a separate school, since the Sacred Heart's School is situated close by?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* There are so many other schools close-by. It cannot be discontinued. As a matter of fact there are two schools opened there.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Is it more close to the Sacred Heart's Convent?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is more close to the Jubilee School.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether Government feel that it is absolutely superfluous to continue this school?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* That is not the answer given.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Is it not more desirable to have a girls' section in the St. Thomas' College for the benefit of the girls going for higher education from that part?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* It is mentioned here that there is objection, because it is required for Government purpose. May I know what that purpose is?

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Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* There are Government Offices there located in rented buildings for want of Government buildings. Some years ago the question of providing Government buildings for public offices was raised and since the school could not be closed they are still being held in rented buildings.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I take it that Government has no objection to take that school for the purpose of Government Offices ?

Mr. President : Even for Government Offices it could not be closed, thinking that it would not be proper to close down the school. That is an additional argument for not closing that school. The hon'ble member has understood the opposite of the intention of the Director.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know, Sir, the strength of the schools run there ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I wan tnotice.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Apart from the objection to this particular site, has the Government any objection to grant any other suitable site ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Government do not possess within the Town any other land.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* The question is whether the Government has any objection to grant the proposal to extend the College for opening a girls' section? Apart from that has the Government any objection to grant another site for the purpose?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I said Government do not possess any suitable site at present which could be handed over to the St. Thomas' College for the purpose.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Suppose the St. Thomas' College makes a request for another site, will the Government be pleased to consider that ?

Mr. President : That is a hypothetical question. Certainly, it will be considered.

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Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is the St. Thomas' College open to girls now? What is the meaning of girls' section etc.?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* That is what Mgr. Palocaran said in reply to an address.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether the girls studying in the two schools there, cannot be accommodated in the Latin Convent, Vivekodayam, Sacred Heart's and Syrian Schools ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* The question is not whether they can be accommodated. They are living near that school. The Latin Convent was opened, because there was no school in that locality. To tranship children from the St. Joseph's School may be physically possible.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* There is the Sacred Heart's School only a hundred yards off?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Dircetor of Public Instruction):* The strength of the Sacred Heart's School has completely outgrown its accommodation.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* There is the V. G. School only 200 yards off.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* The condition there also is the same.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether the Government means it is impossible to accommodate?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is impossible. That was enquired into by the Government when they wanted a building for their own purposes.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I take it from the answer given by the Director of Public Instruction that it is impossible to shift these pupils to a distance?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* If it were possible to accommodate these children in any school near by, they would have done it when they wanted the building for their own purposes.

Mr. President : What is the strength of these two schools there?

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Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* In the Sacred Heart's School it would be nearly 1,000.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Will the Government be pleased to ask the management of the Sacred Heart's School to make accommodation for these girls also, if they are entrusted with the management?

Mr. President: Here are two very good Government Primary Schools held in Government buildings, and the schools near by, as the Director says, are already overflowing. The question is asked why should the Government hold the school there; why not shift it to another centre? How does that question arise? Both from the point of view of the overflowing strength of those schools and the considerable strength of these two schools, there is justification for continuing these schools. Unless a case is made out for the abolition of these schools, why should Government consider this hypothetical question?

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* We are questioning the statement that it is impossible to absorb all these pupils in the neighbouring schools.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* About two years ago when the Training Institution was shifted to Ramavarmapuram, we had a certain number of girls in the Primary department. Neither the Jubilee school nor the Sacred Heart's school could accommodate them. They had to be accommodated in the primary department of Boys' High School.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know, Sir, whether it is possible to put up a building in the Jubilee Girls' School.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Already, the ground is overcrowded. We have to accommodate the strength which is already there. There is the Music school, there is the cookery section. It is impossible to put up any more buildings.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* What is the strength of this girls' primary school?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* There are two primary schools. The difficulty is with regard to the English Primary School. In the English Primary School, the strength is about 200.

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